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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 10 April 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith for your perusal the text of the "Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership", adopted at the Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina, held at Sarajevo today, 10 April 1996 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this Declaration circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aboubacar DIONE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Chairman a.i. of the OIC Contact
Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina

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ANNEX

Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership, adopted by the Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina was held at Sarajevo, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 10 April 1996 to review the progress in the implementation of the Dayton Agreement and assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Ministerial Meeting was attended by the representatives of Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Turkey, along with the Secretary General of OIC.

Reaffirming all previous resolutions and declarations adopted by OIC, in particular the Special Declaration on Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference at Casablanca in December 1994 and the OIC Action Plan to implement the Dayton Agreement, adopted by the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers at Conakry in December 1995.

In adopting the Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership with the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministers paid tribute to the valiant struggle of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina in defending the ideals of freedom, tolerance, democracy and justice throughout the four long years of aggression and genocide and decided to:

1. Reaffirm their commitment to the integrity and sovereignty of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and, in this context, support the "Declaration of Integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina", signed on 3 April 1996 by eminent personalities and parties of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

2. Fully support the complete, impartial and effective implementation of the Dayton Agreement and express the willingness of OIC member States to participate more effectively in the implementation process, including the Implementation Force, the Steering Board, the International Police Task Force, regional stabilization negotiations under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the reconstruction work;

3. Express full support for the establishment of a democratic, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural State of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

4. Underline the importance of the mission of the High Representative, Mr. Carl Bildt and encourage him to intensify his efforts for the full and impartial implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton Agreement and, in this regard, emphasize the need for more coordination between the OIC Contact Group and the five nation Contact Group in the Steering Board and through ministerial and expert-level meetings;

5. Call upon the mid-term conference of the Peace Implementation Council, which is to take place in Florence, Italy, on 13 and 14 June 1996, to take account of the high importance of the full and effective implementation of the civilian aspects of the Agreement and to mobilize more political effort in this regard;

6. Call on the international community to strongly assist in building peace and the pursuance of reconciliation and democratization in Bosnia and Herzegovina by supporting the forces of democracy and integration;

7. Emphasize the importance and urgency of adequate international contributions to the imperative task of reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina and express the willingness of OIC member States to provide resources for the reconstruction programme, including through the generous participation of OIC member States at the pledging conference to be held at Brussels on 12 and 13 April 1996;

8. Support the strengthening of the Federation as one of two entities of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a democratic, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural society, which is an essential precondition for the smooth reintegration of the whole State of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

9. Urge all those involved in the implementation process to undertake urgent and effective measures to stop the tendency of ethnic partition of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina and draw the attention of the international community to the serious threat to the stability of the entire Balkan region as a result of the prevailing tendency to support ethnic instead of democratic forces;

10. Strongly call for the full and effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the Dayton Agreement, particularly the prosecution of those indicted by the International War Crimes Tribunal, as well as those responsible for genocide, ethnic cleansing and other crimes against humanity in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and, in this respect, emphasize that the Security Council should be seized with the compliance of the mandate of the Tribunal in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions;

11. Ask for effective implementation of the provisions relating to reconciliation, democratization, and free and fair elections, thus creating conditions for the safe and orderly return of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes of origin;

12. Reiterate their continued commitment in assisting the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, bilaterally, through the Assistance Mobilization Group (AMG), as well as the institutions and organs of OIC, and express willingness to provide urgent and adequate resources for the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes and projects aimed at helping those in urgent need and to create jobs, particularly for the demobilized soldiers, and in this regard reaffirm the mandate and role of AMG in the post-Dayton phase;

13. Call on all countries, including OIC countries, which have not yet done so, to establish diplomatic relations with the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to conclude agreements on economic, technological and cultural cooperation;

14. Express full support to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its case in the International Court of Justice against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) on genocide;

15. Urge the High Representative to assist in arranging compensation for the losses inflicted upon the suburbs of Sarajevo by the criminal Serb elements during the period of transfer of authority from the Serb entity to the Federation, using the funds aimed at reconstructing the Serb entity;

16. Reiterate the position of their Governments to freeze the assets of former Yugoslavia until the issue of succession is settled and call on other members of the United Nations to do so immediately in accordance with paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1022 (1995) of 22 November 1995;

17. Provide military assistance to the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in establishing the army of the Federation, in the spirit of the Dayton Peace Agreement and Security Council resolution 1021 (1995) of 22 November 1995, in order to build up, including through the training and equipment programme, its defence capabilities, aimed at establishing a military balance and to ensure deterrence against any possible future aggression;

18. Urge the international community to prevail upon the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to stop discriminatory and repressive measures against Bosniaks of Sanjak, Albanian people of Kosovo and other Muslims throughout its territory, as well as against non-Serbs in Vojvodina;

19. Request the Chairman of the Contact Group to address a communication to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a request to circulate this Declaration as a document of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.